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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**12 DECEMBER 2017**

#### **(U) CALIFORNIA**

##### **(U) Salton City – Man Arrested After More Than \$92K In Meth Found Inside Gas Tank**

(U) A man was arrested by Border Patrol agents on suspicion of smuggling methamphetamine inside his gas tank. Before reaching the inspection area at the El Centro Sector, a K-9 detection team was alerted to the driver's side of the 26-year-old man's vehicle. After further inspection of the vehicle, agents found 24 packages stuffed inside the vehicle's gas tank. The substance inside the packages later tested positive for methamphetamine. The total street value of the drugs is \$92,435, according to US Customs and Border Protection.

SOURCE: 10 December 2017, [ABC 10](#)

#### **(U) NATIONAL**

##### **(U) Arizona – 19-Year Old Man Flees Border Patrol with Mexican Nationals Hidden in Trunk**

(U) Tucson – Border Patrol agents caught a driver and his passenger last Saturday night after they fled from inspection and were found to have two undocumented immigrants in their trunk. Agents attempted to perform an immigration inspection, but the driver fled from the checkpoint at a high rate of speed and then lost control and crashed on Interstate 19. Agents discovered a 24-year-old female Mexican national and a 19-year-old male Mexican national hidden in the vehicle's trunk. Agents arrested the 19-year-old driver and 18-year-old passenger, both from Tucson, for human smuggling and the Mexican nationals for immigration violations.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [KVOA](#)

##### **(U) Montana – Man Wanted for Illegal Selling of Firearms Arrested in Mexico**

(U) Billings – A captured fugitive is accused of dozens of federal firearms violations and for allegedly exporting guns from the US to customers in countries with restrictive gun laws. Authorities allege 37-year-old Eric Daniel Doyle planned to use the internet to sell handguns to customers in Australia, Norway, Denmark and Sweden. The weapons were shipped through the US Postal Service. Doyle was indicted by a federal grand jury in 2015 but eluded authorities for more than two years. He was captured in the Mexican state of Sonora on 8 November and is scheduled to appear today before a US Magistrate Judge Jeremiah Lynch for a detention hearing.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [Associated Press](#)

##### **(U) New York – NYC Terror Attack Suspect Claims He Did It for ISIS**

(U) New York City – The man who detonated an improvised explosive device in an underground passageway at a major commuter hub in New York City yesterday morning, was identified as 27-year-old Akayed Ullah. The suspect has been interviewed by investigators, and claimed he carried out the attack for ISIS and was inspired by the group. Authorities are investigating whether he may have been in contact with known extremist individuals.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [CBS News](#)

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**(U) Texas – Man Sentenced for Illegally Making Guns Sent to Mexico**

(U) Dallas – A North Texas man has been sentenced to six and a half years in federal prison for illegally making hundreds of firearms — some of which ended up in Mexico. Last Friday, Gary Busby was sentenced during a federal court hearing. He had been convicted in March 2017 on one count of conspiracy to manufacture firearms without a license and four counts of structuring financial transactions to evade reporting requirements. Prosecutors say that between 2010 and 2011 Busby manufactured hundreds of AR-15 and AK firearm receivers into fully functional firearms. Authorities say they found about 50 of these weapons, some recovered while being smuggled into Mexico and the rest recovered by Mexican authorities.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) Texas – 18-Year-Old Man Arrested On Terrorism Charges**

(U) Houston – Sercan Damlarkaya was arrested last Friday and is accused of distributing explosive-making instructions and trying to provide material to ISIS. According to court documents, through online communications with undercover FBI agents and other sources, Damlarkaya allegedly shared intentions to travel overseas to fight for ISIS or to commit an attack in the United States if he were unable to travel. According to the criminal complaint, Damlarkaya gave instructions on how to build an AK-47 and a AR-15 assault rifle from readily available parts to avoid detection from officials. Documents state Damlarkaya gave a formula to alleged ISIS supporters for the explosive Triacetone Triperoxide (TATP), and instructions on how to use it in a pressure cooker device that contained shrapnel.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [KHOU](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Russia – Hackers Stole About \$10 Million From US and Russian Banks**

(U) Moscow – A top cybersecurity firm says it has identified a previously unknown group of Russian-speaking hackers who have allegedly stolen at least \$10 million from US and Russian banks over the past year and a half. The group, named the "Money Takers" after a software tool they use, allegedly targeted banks across the United States, breaking into at least 15 lenders in Utah, New York, and California, and stole at least \$3 million from Russian banks, according to a report from the cybersecurity firm IB-Group. Beginning in May 2016, the group mostly targeted card payment systems belonging to small community banks in the US, before then striking a transfer system used between Russian banks, IB-Group said. The hackers focused on small US banks with fewer resources to put into cyber-defenses. Having broken into the banks' card payments systems, the hackers would open accounts and remove withdrawal limits on legitimate cards.

SOURCE: 11 December 2017, [ABC News](#)

**(U) South Korea – Anti-Terror Drills Conducted Before Winter Games**

(U) Pyeongchang– Set to host the Winter Olympics in February 2018, South Korea conducted a series of security drills today to prepare against terror attacks ranging from a hostage situation, a vehicle ramming a stadium and a bomb-attached to a drone. Police and firemen were among around 420 personnel participating in the exercise, held in front of the Olympic Stadium. During the simulated drills, members of a SWAT team shot down a drone with a bomb attached that was flying toward a bus carrying athletes. In another part a terrorist took hostage athletes on a bus, and tried to ram the vehicle into the stadium before being gunned down by police.

SOURCE: 12 December 2017, [Reuters](#)

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